WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A water-based opaque ink coloring composition suitable for use in markers comprising:

(a) a carrier comprising water;

(b) a dimethicone copolyol; and

(c) submicron polymeric particles having an outer polymeric shell which defines an inner hollow region,

wherein said composition does not contain a neutral buoyancy additive.

2. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said submicron polymeric particles are modified with compounds selected from the group consisting of dyes, pigments, and mixtures thereof.

3. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein the inner hollow region of said submicron polymeric particles contains water.

4. The water-based coloring composition according to claim 1, wherein said submicron polymeric particles are microspheres.

5. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said submicron polymeric particles are in the form of styrene/acrylic emulsion.

6. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said submicron polymeric particles are present in an amount from about 5% by weight to about 80% by weight of the coloring composition.

7. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said water is deionized water.

8. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said water is present in an amount from about 3% by weight to about 50% by weight of the coloring composition.

9. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said coloring composition has a density of about 8.0 lbs/gal to about 9.0 lbs/gal.

10. The water-based coloring composition of claim 7, wherein said coloring composition has a viscosity of from about 1 to about 20 centipoises.

11. The water-based coloring compositions according of claim 1, further comprising a colorant.

12. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 11, wherein said colorant is selected from the group consisting of dyes, pigments, and mixtures thereof.

13. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 1, further comprising a humectant.

14. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 13, wherein said humectant is a glycol.

15. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 1, further comprising a surfactant that serves to lower surface tension and provide flow.

16. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 15, wherein said surfactant is in the form of anionic, or non-ionic fluorocarbon.

17. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, further comprising a dispersing agent.

18. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 1, further comprising a pH adjustor.

19. The water-based coloring compositions of claim 1, further comprising an alcohol or coalescent to improve drying speed.

20. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, further comprising a release agent.

21. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said dimethicone copolyol is DC-190.

22. The water-based coloring composition of claim 1, wherein said dimethicone copolyol is DC-193.

23. A marking instrument for applying an opaque ink coloring composition comprising a nib and a reservoir wherein said reservoir contains a water-based opaque ink coloring composition comprising:

(a) a carrier comprising water;

(b) a dimethicone copolyol; and

(c) submicron polymeric particles having an outer polymeric shell which defines an inner hollow region,

wherein said composition does not contain a neutral buoyancy additive.

24. The marking instrument of claim 21, wherein said water-based opaque ink coloring composition is in a filler material.

25. The marking instrument of claim 21, wherein said water-based opaque ink coloring composition is free and not in a filler material.